

**MARINERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
BAY AND RIVER DELAWARE
MEETING – December 14th, 2006 MINUTES**

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Mariners' Advisory Committee for the Bay and River Delaware was held December, 14th, 2006 at Ristorante LaVeranda Philadelphia. Captain John Cuff called the meeting to order at 1100 hours. The meeting was attended by 52 Members, Associate Members, and interested parties.

I. Welcome

Captain Cuff welcomed all members and guests.

II. Reading of the Minutes

Captain Linton moved that the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting be approved, Don Ivans seconded. All approved

III. Report of the Treasurer

On behalf of Dennis Rochford, Captain Cuff reported a balance of \$18,368.59. Tom Johnston moved that the report be accepted. Former COTP Greg Adams seconded.

IV. Aids to Navigation USCG

John Walters reported on the following lights and projects:

1. Duck Island Range Front Light
2. Cherry Island Range Front Light
3. Enterprise Upper Range
4. Bristol Range
5. Brandywine Shoal Light
6. Acquisition Construction and Improvement funds
7. Upper Delaware River Buoys 52 and 54

He added that starting in 2007, they will be rebuilding Baker Range as a solar powered light like Deepwater.

V. NOAA

Howard Danley's reported on the following:

They will be shifting traffic lanes to some east coast ports due to the migration paths of the Right Whale effective July 1st. As it relates to speed restrictions, that subject remains unresolved.

Captain Broadley inquired about the proposed air draft sensor for Ben Franklin Bridge thru the PORTS system. No updates were available.

VI. Marine Safety Office USCG- Captain of the Port

USCG COTP David Scott reported the following:

a. The Delaware River Protection Act that was signed off mid-summer led to the creation of a new Federal Advisory Committee-Delaware River and Bay Oil Spill Advisory Committee comprised of a 27 person board to provide recommendations to respond to and prevent oil spills. The Charter has been drafted and is at the District Office for review and approval. Once in place, we will solicit for members to make up the committee made up of reps from the three states with representation from all facets of the marine community including commercial, recreational and fishing entities.

b. In October the Safe Port Act was passed. It requires us to:

1. update the Marine Security Plan to include salvage and reconstruction plans.
2. It also requires facility security officers to be U.S. citizens or lawfully admitted aliens carrying the appropriate background check/credentials.
3. It also requires two annual facility checks; one unannounced. Also required is a full scale live security exercise every two years.
4. Also, TWIC regulations need to be in place by January 1st 2007 and TWIC issuance by July 1st.

c. Captain Scott added the following: Round 7 of the DHS security grants. The Department requested a more aggressive outreach effort and to make a public presentation explaining rules and encourage broader participation and have targeted January 8th in Philadelphia.

d. LNG at Crown Landing: all depositions and legal briefs and subsequent arguments will be in place by February 22nd 2007.

USCG Chief of Waterways, Jason Aleksak, reported the following:

1. The National Weather Service reports that the forecast of ice on the river does not look favorable.
2. The annual dredging of Marcus Hook Anchorage will commence December 18th and usage of the anchorage will be regulated. An MSIB will follow. Captain Cuff added that we'll email the MSIB to our members.

Also discussed was the current and proposed ice buoy placement.

VII. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

On behalf of Tom Groff, a rep from the ACOE reported the following:

New Castle is just finishing up.

Marcus Hook-end of December with Norfolk Dredging

Salem River – 60 days for the 16 foot channel.

C&D Canal – Weeks Marine thru January

Philadelphia to Trenton project finished in November.

Wilmington Harbor scheduled for the spring for 35 days

Navy Yard finished by December 31st with Great Lakes Dredging

Captain Broadley inquired about getting Norfolk Dredging on AIS. Captain Cuff responded that he'd look into it along with the ACOE.

VIII. Old Business

ANCHORAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Captain Cuff presented the results of a MAC subcommittee on sectioning the Marcus and Mantua Creek anchorage where the anchorages are divided into primary and secondary locations for tugs, barges and ships. Charts were distributed for review, discussion and consideration. He added that if we adopt this into our MAC recommendations, he'll go to New York and Baltimore's Harbor Safety meetings to gather support. He added that we've got to get the tugs and tows to call the Maritime Exchange to report their position and plan.

He added that we are looking at encouraging tugs to use Wilmington and Kaighns Point anchorages as well.

In addition, Capt Cuff mentioned that the committee would like to explore encouraging more ships bunker alongside the dock as opposed to the anchorage. Tom Johnston responded that the facilities encourage the opposite. More discussion ensued.

Captain Cuff closed with the following: It's going to take cooperation and communication if we are going to be able to manage our anchorages.

IX. New Business

Sunoco rep George Murphy wanted to recognized Captain Cuff's leadership and contribution to the MAC.

X. Adjournment

Tom Johnston moved that the meeting be adjourned. Formed COTP Greg Adams seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1205

Captain Cuff announced that the next MAC meeting is scheduled for March 8th, 2007 at the Ristorante LaVeranda in Philadelphia.